

Speaking of Music

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SPEAKING OF MUSIC

The Exploratorium's *Speaking of Music* program presents some of the world's most innovative contemporary musicians in performance and conversation. An informal setting and intimate atmosphere encourage audience participation in examining the artist's creative process.

Speaking of Music is hosted and programmed by Charles Amirkhanyan, Music Director of radio station KPFA-FM in Berkeley. Now in its seventeenth year, *Speaking of Music* has presented such composers as Keith Jarrett, Laurie Anderson, Elliott Carter, Pierre Boulez, John Cage, Milton Babbitt, Anthony Braxton, Pauline Oliveros, and Frank Zappa.

Astor Piazzolla, *Speaking of Music*, Spring '89

Funkin' Music

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Tuesday, January 23, 8pm
**MARILYN CRISPELL &
LEROY JENKINS**
Duo Revolution

Join us as pianist Marilyn Crispell and violinist Leroy Jenkins, two of the most exciting performer-composers in contemporary music, appear together.

FIVE EVENTS AT THEATER

Astor Piazzolla, *Speaking of Music*, Spring '89



DAVID LANG

Thursday, February 15, 8pm
DAVID LANG
featuring **GLORIA CHENG**
with **JULIE STEINBERG**
Aliens Kidnapped Me and Stole My Blood

David Lang, who has tickled the musical world with his unconventional orchestral music titles, describes himself as a "survivor" of Stanford, Iowa, and Yale. Born in 1957, Dr. Lang currently lives in Manhattan, where he has composed a much-heralded series of commissioned works, including *Eating Living Monkeys* for the Cleveland Orchestra, *Spud* for the St. Paul Chamber Orchestra, and *Aliens Kidnapped Me and Stole My Blood*, a concerto for piano with symphonic wind ensemble which was premiered in 1987 by tonight's featured guest pianist, Gloria Cheng. Tonight, Ms. Cheng performs another work for piano, *While Nailing at Random*, and we hear Lang's most recent composition, *Orpheus Over and Under*, for two pianos playing single-note tremolos for nearly twenty minutes. David Lang is co-founder of New York's famous "Bang On A Can" Festival. Gloria Cheng is pianist of the Long Beach Symphony, co-founder of the Los Angeles-based contemporary music ensemble XTET, and has appeared regularly with the Los Angeles Philharmonic. Renowned Bay Area pianist Julie Steinberg will join Ms. Cheng for *Orpheus*.



GLORIA CHENG



JULIE STEINBERG

MARILYN CRISPELL



JINHI KIM

Thursday, April 12, 8pm
JINHI KIM
Komungo Virtuoso

Composer-performer Jinhi Kim ("Gold Dragon Princess" in Korean) is the first master of the ancient silk-stringed *komungo* to perform experimental music. The *komungo*, a traditional Korean instrument, has six strings with three moveable bridges and sixteen frets. Having studied both the cerebral compositional styles of twentieth-century Western music and the traditional music of Korea, with its spiritual and gestural content, Ms. Kim has synthesized a unique sound in free improvised music. She has appeared in performance with Henry Kaiser, Elliott Sharp, Joseph Celli, Derek Bailey, James Newton, Malcolm Goldstein and others. She has also composed *Linking* for the Kronos String Quartet, and *Tasrum* for *komungo*, clarinet, and cello, and continues to find new applications for her instrument in a variety of settings. She is currently working with a new electric *komungo* which provides new electronic possibilities for her traditional instrument. Tonight she performs improvisations on both the traditional *komungo* and the new electronic model. Born in Korea, Ms. Kim has lived in San Francisco since 1980.

LEROY JENKINS

Thursday, February 1, 8pm
ROBERT DICK
Other Flutes

Robert Dick is known worldwide for his mastery of unconventional flute techniques (circular breathing, multiphonics, whisper-tones, glissandi, percussive sonorities), as well as for his compositions, primarily for unaccompanied flute or bass flute. He has frequently been compared to Hendrix as a virtuoso who not only has mastered his instrument, but redefined it. He is the author of *The Other Flute: A Performance Manual of Contemporary Techniques*, and *Flying Lessons: Six Contemporary Concert Etudes*. His appearance here is made in collaboration with Composers, Inc., which presents Mr. Dick in concert on January 30th. Tonight he demonstrates the range of his extraordinary technical innovations on a variety of instruments, and performs selections of his music.



ROBERT DICK

as *Gala*, *Labyrinths*, and *Your Very Voice Sings*, and *Rhythms Hung In an Undrawn Sky*. Leroy Jenkins is a major figure in the development of extended violin techniques and of free jazz, developing his work with the AACM in Chicago (1965-69). He has worked in collaboration with the Revolutionary Ensemble, Anthony Davis, Leo Smith, and his new group, *Sting*. His music for *Mother of Three Sons* will premiere in May at the Munich Biennale.



TRIMPIN

Thursday, May 17, 8pm
TRIMPIN
Inventor, Composer, Sculptor

German-born Trimpin, who lives in Seattle, is one of the most inspiring and energetic figures in music today. He specializes in the development of computer-assisted acoustic instruments, creating spectacular effects that bypass the need for human performers. To this end, he has collaborated with player-piano composer Conlon Nancarrow in the production of works for four grand pianos. These pieces, performed by both Trimpin and Nancarrow, were produced in November 1989 at the Baldwin Piano Company showroom in New York City for the New Music America Festival. His work for 72 Dutch wooden shoes was presented at the 1989 Composer-to-Composer Festival in Telluride, Colorado. Each shoe, hung around the horseshoe-shaped balcony of the town's restored 1913 burlesque hall, was fitted with a hammer activated by a solenoid and controlled by a computer. The result was an electrifying spatial experience of interlocking rhythms. This evening, Trimpin introduces a selection of both conventional instruments and instruments he has invented.

3601 Lyon Street
San Francisco, CA 94123

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\$24 (\$20 for museum members) for all five events. See the coupon below for details.

Single Tickets

All events are \$6 general, \$5 for students, seniors, and museum members. Events take place at 8pm in the McBean Theater. Box Office opens one hour before performance time.

Information and Reservations

Call the Exploratorium's Performance Hotline at 561-0361. ASL Interpreters are available with 72 hours' notice. Please call 563-7337 (V) or 567-0709 (TDD).



Speaking of Music

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The Exploratorium is wheelchair accessible.



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PERFORMANCE RESIDENCY PROGRAM

Now in its third year, the Exploratorium's Performance Residency Program gives performing artists the rare opportunity to work alongside physicists, engineers, and educators. The program is designed to bring people from diverse fields into the museum to experiment, give public performances, and use shop facilities to work out technical problems.

For information on performances call (415) 561-0361 or 563-7337.

PAMELA Z

Residency: January 3-7.

Pamela Z's concert "Pamela Z Plays the Exploratorium (Literally)" has been rescheduled for January 6. She will be using Exploratorium exhibits and the inherent acoustic delay of the Palace of Fine Arts itself to create a unique atmosphere of song and sound. Tickets: \$5 general/\$4 students, seniors and members.

DIANA BURGOYNE

Residency: January 29-February 11.

Performance artist Burgoyne will be exploring the relationship between external electrically engineered circuitry and the internal neural circuitry of the human body.

JO ANDRES

Residency: February 26-March 18.

Our first returning resident, dancer/filmmaker Andres will be projecting ghostly images onto unusual materials such as water and fog.

SU CHEN HUNG

Residency: April 4-8.

Performance/installation artist Su Chen Hung will be investigating resonating space.

TRIMPIN

Residency: April 23-May 20.

Inventor/composer/instrument-builder Trimpin has intriguing ideas: a percussive instrument which floats in a magnetic field, a charged piano, and a cradled plane of xylophone bars.

SPEAKING OF MUSIC

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Enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope and mail to *Speaking of Music*, The Exploratorium, 3601 Lyon St., San Francisco, CA 94123. (Please make check payable to the Exploratorium.)

MAILING LIST

Our mailing list is ancient and we need to update it. If you would like to continue to receive information about the *Speaking of Music* series, please clip this form and mail it back to the Exploratorium, 3601 Lyon Street, San Francisco, CA 94123, or give us a call at 561-0361 and leave your name and address.

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